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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/593,554	06/14/2000	STUART A. FRASER	CF/006	7904

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EXAMINER	
SUBRAMANIAN, NARAYANSWAMY	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3624	

DATE MAILED: 05/20/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/593,554

Applicant(s)

FRASER ET AL.

Examiner

Narayanswamy Subramanian

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 March 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 16,24-32 and 47-90 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 16,24-32 and 47-90 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This communication is in response to Applicant's communication filed on March 2, 2004 (Paper No. 10). Cancellation of claims 1-15, 17-23 and 33-46, amendment of claim 16 and addition of claims 47-90 have been entered. Claims 16, 24-32 and 47-90 are currently pending and have been examined. The rejections and response to arguments are stated below.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 16, 24-27, 31-32, 47-51, 55-61, 65-71, 75-79 and 83-87 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gary (US Patent 6,618,707).

With reference to claims 16, 47, 57, 67, 75 and 83, Gary teaches methods and systems respectively for electronic trading, the method comprising: receiving bid or offer orders from a trader (See Gary Claim 1); receiving a trade command to hit or take at least one of the orders (See Gary Claim 1); determining whether the trader qualifies for an incentive for making a market associated with the orders received (See Gary Column 4 line 66- Column 5 line 3 and Claim 1); and providing the trader with an exclusive opportunity in trading if the trader qualifies for the incentive (See Gary Column 4 line 66- Column 5 line 3 and Claim 3). The network, computing workstations and the means for performing the steps in the method are inherent in the disclosure of Gary.

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With reference to claims 24-27, 31-32, 48-51, 55-56, 58-61, 65, 66, 68-71, 76-79 and 84-87, Gary teaches incentives based on volume of the orders (See Gary Column 4 line 66- Column 5 line 3), spread of the orders (See Gary Claim 68, quotations involving a sale and purchase implies a spread), price of the orders (See Gary Column 6 lines 4-8) and size of the orders (See Gary Column 16 lines 32-42) received from the trader respectively; determining how to provide the incentive to the trader and another incentive to another trader when both the incentive and the other incentive are due concurrently (See Gary Column 16 lines 24-28) and enabling the trader to determine incentives that have been earned by the trader in substantially real time as the incentives are earned (See Gary Column 2 lines 25-27).

4. Claims 28-30, 52-54, 62-64, 72-74, 80-82 and 88-90 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gary (US Patent 6,618,707) in view of May (US Patent 6,421,653 B1).

With reference to claims 28-30, 52-54, 62-64, 72-74, 80-82 and 88-90 Gary teaches methods and systems of claims 16, 47, 57, 67, 75 and 83 as discussed above.

Gary does not explicitly teach incentives based on duration of the orders received from the trader, cancellations of earlier orders by the trader or a credit rating of the trader.

May teaches incentives based on duration of the orders received from the trader (See May Column 37 lines 28-36), cancellations of earlier orders by the trader (See May Column 38 lines 15-22) or a credit rating of the trader (See May claims 18 and 21).

It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the disclosure of May to the invention of Gary. The combination of the disclosures taken

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as a whole suggests that the counterparty would have benefited from the knowledge that the parties to the transaction have sufficient credit to complete the transaction.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 16 and 24-32 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

6. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dr. Narayanswamy Subramanian whose telephone number is (703) 305-4878. The examiner can normally be reached Monday-Thursday from 8:30 AM to 7:00 PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vincent Millin can be reached at (703) 308-1065. The fax number for Formal or

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Official faxes and Draft or Informal faxes to the Patent Office is (703) 872-9306. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1113.

N. Subramanian

May 6, 2004

Richard Weisberger
Primary Examiner